

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Peabody Residential Treatment Center Is Re-Accredited
DCS treatment facility receives unanimous approval, achieves 100 percent compliance rating

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Peabody Residential Treatment Center was recently re-accredited by the American Correctional Association by unanimous vote. The Memphis-based residential treatment center received a 100-percent compliance rating.

"We are pleased and proud that our center has received re-accreditation by the esteemed ACA," said Peabody program manager Terry Markle.

The road to accreditation involves completing a comprehensive assessment. The entire program's operations are compared to national standards. Everything is evaluated: Ways to do the job better, methods to keep staff morale high and improvements that the young residents are making in their lives.

"Obviously, they are committed to excellence and we want to show how much we value their commitment. Their good work is having a direct, positive impact on the lives of the children and families whom they serve. This is the level of quality of treatment and services for our students that we want to see across Tennessee. Terry and his staff deserve tons of praise and all of the credit," said Steven Hornsby, deputy commissioner of juvenile justice for DCS, who will be present at a Peabody celebration on Friday, May 27, 2005, from 1:30-3 p.m. at the facility, located at 3951 Covington Pike.

Peabody Residential Treatment Center was created in 1990 to meet the special needs of the juvenile offender with a diagnosis of mild mental retardation. This community-based program seeks to meet the individual needs of each resident through intensive individualized treatment programs while meeting security needs by providing 24-hour staff supervision.

Peabody's goal is to help residents develop skills and become better equipped to function in society. The center's programs focus on education, vocational training, emotional health, physical fitness and personal development.

"Peabody Group Home has demonstrated excellence in rehabilitating the young men they serve, while providing a safe and secure environment for their students and the community," Hornsby said.

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